



# Clay County Fire Chief's Association

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## Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 12th, 2017, 1900 hours, Moorhead Fire Dept – Station 1 (1120 1<sup>st</sup> Ave N)

### 1. Call to Order at 1900 hrs

### 2. ARMER Update – Brian Green or Brian Zastoupil

We talked around the room to discuss how close departments are to being ready to switch over. We're still looking to switch over in December. We can start using ARMER now. Hard patches are in place between Clay Co Fire VHF and CL Fire on ARMER.

The Region formally adopted allowing Cass County, ND to come onto ARMER. Hopefully full adoption will be approved by about August. Cass Co would still need to self-fund tower construction and radios before they can become active.

### 3. Alphanumeric Paging Issues – Mark Empting, Bryan Green, Brian Zastoupil

We are having issues with how we can get call cancellations via alphanumeric and phone apps. After discussion we believe this was because dispatchers were not actively using the system before the June go-live date. Before that we were only receiving the automated messages with no dispatcher intervention. Let RRRDC know if you are not receiving cancellations now.

Also we are having a problem with multiple run updates resulting in additional pages. Amanda stated that the system will only send out additional pages if there is an address change or call type change. She felt that most of the updates are probably due to address updates as the call is being further verified. We agreed to continue to monitor how the system performs before the next meeting.

The new towers are up, so let RRRDC know if you're having paging reception issues.

CodeRed is out backup if the paging system goes down. Either all fire agencies in the County or all EMS agencies in the County will get a page if a department is being paged out. Please send Bryan Green your updated roster with landline or cell phone numbers and provider.

### 4. Making Dispatch Procedural Changes – Jeff Wallin

We discussed that if we have problems on a run or questions for RRRDC, we should call them directly and as soon as possible. If we want to change how we are dispatched out or another policy or procedure, it should go through the CCFCA and run through our representative on the RRRDC Fire & EMS Operations Committee.

## **5. Emergency Manager Update – Bryan Green**

AT&T was awarded the contract for FirstNet. By the end of this fall, MN will have to decide to either go with AT&T or stand alone for data rates. We're supposed to have priority on the system, but this is still years away.

Clay County Emergency Management has one drone and will be receiving a second in the next couple of weeks with upgraded features. Moorhead Fire will also be training some pilots to supplement the two existing Valley Water Rescue pilots. Within 5 miles of Hector Field, we will need tower approval to operate. Call dispatch if you need the drone.

## **6. First Responder Sub-Committee Update – Bryan Green**

There was a meeting with a couple of commissioners. There may be some reimbursements available for Fire & EMS departments responding on medical calls. The issue continues to be under discussion.

## **7. Glyndon Fire Drone Exercise – Bob Chuchna**

The was spurred by a lost child call a year and a half ago. They will be doing a small-scale exercise at the MSUM science center by Buffalo River State Park to tests that training. If it goes well, this could lead to a larger exercise.

## **8. Pipeline Exercise Fall of 2017 – Chad Stangeland**

On July 26<sup>th</sup>, 0930-1100 at the Hjemkomst Center in Moorhead, Viking Pipeline will be holding a free class about pipeline emergencies (open to all). An EOC drill will occur on August 15<sup>th</sup>, and a field exercise will occur on September 14<sup>th</sup> which is open for observation, but is primarily a Moorhead & Fargo Fire training event.

## **9. M|State Training Update – Jeff Wallin**

Award letters first part of Aug. Don't wait until the end the year again to schedule training.

## **10. Box Alarms – Jeff Wallin**

Rick Loveland will be scheduling a Hibbing Fire Captain to come to our October Meeting to explain how their system works.

Hawley would like any time there was confirmed smoke or fire, the next closest department would be dispatched out automatically. We discussed possibly using a paper card based system to start with before rebuilding cad recommendations. Hawley will take the lead and be working on this between now and the next meeting. We all agreed to start moving forward with this. We know there will be issues with dispatch and each department should be taking the lead to determine how the box areas and who the next department should be. Hawley will spear head the committee. Bob Cuchna and Rick Loveland and Jeff Wallin will also be on the committee.

## **11. Aircraft Emergencies – Jeff Wallin**

We discussed the recent airplane crash by the Moorhead Airport and reviewed the actual response boundaries along the I-94 corridor from 34<sup>th</sup> St in Moorhead to Hwy 336. We found that the dispatch protocols were followed properly and there is no need to make protocol changes at this time.

## **12. Round Table**

**Clay County Emergency Mgmnt** – RRRDC will be pushing people off of the main channel to local scene of action channels for fireground operations, so be prepared for this. Regarding the most recent storm system, the State threshold for disaster declaration is \$110,000 but this includes damage to the power distribution system as well, so that is easier to achieve.

**Dilworth** - Congratulations to Gary Larsen (promoted to Assistant Chief) & Rick Loveland (Promoted to Captain). They also asked which other departments bill out for large commercial fires and it sounds like most other departments do.

**Glyndon** – They asked if run time info can come out in the e-mail system after the Rip & Run feature ends to avoid having to call in directly to get times. Amada will check on this.

They also had a recent call where City Hall did not send out the bill to Dilworth on a mutual aid call until it was several well past a reasonable time frame so Dilworth and Glyndon agreed to drop the billing. We should get our bills out within a couple of weeks.

We also decided we should review our mutual aid agreement at the next meeting for possible changes.

**Hawley** – Thanks for everyone who assisted with recent calls.

**Minnesota State Fire Marshal Div.** – It is busy this year. She averages 30-35 investigations per year. This year she has already had 33.

**Moorhead** – An ICS 300 class will be offered on July 25-27 at MSUM, Comstock Memorial Union, Rooms 203-205. See Bryan Green's recent e-mail with registration details.

Ryan Muchow accepted the Chief's job in Fergus Falls, so Gary Larsen is the Interim haz-mat team director. If anyone in the County is having problems with the State Duty Officer, please call Moorhead Fire directly and they will provide whatever assistance they are able. The team has stable State funding for two more years.

**RRRDC** – December 5<sup>th</sup> is the tentative go live date for the new CAD version of New World. The Rip & Run (fax) feature will not be supported. E-mail and other options may be available. Mary Edinger will be taking over for Amanda during her maternity leave.

**Meeting Adjourned at 2045**

**People in Attendance:**

Barnesville Fire – Michael Stetz  
Clay County Emer Mgmnt – Bryan Green  
Dilworth Fire – Mark Empting  
Felton Fire – Rodney Dahlsad  
Glyndon Fire – Bob Cuchna, Brock Franke  
Hayley Fire – Brad Eldred, Justin Martin, Tim Sanvik  
Moorhead Fire – Jeff Wallin, Chad Stangeland, Gary Larsen  
M|State – Rick Loveland  
MN State Fire Marshal Div – Andrea Wenzlaff  
Red River Regional Dispatch Center – Amanda Glasoe, Brian Zastoupil  
Sabin-Elmwood Fire – Chad Bryan, Randy Schmidt

**Future Meeting Dates & Locations:**

10/11/17 Sabin  
1/10/18 Ulen  
4/11/18 Barnesville  
7/11/18 Dilworth  
10/10/18 Felton  
1/9/19 Glyndon  
4/10/19 Hawley  
7/10/19 Hitterdal  
10/9/17 Moorhead